

83. The method of claim 77 wherein the back-flush fluid comprises permeate followed by compressed air.

REMARKS

Claims 74-76 have been written to take the place of claims 1-11; they find support therein. Claims 66-73 have been written to take the place of claims 53-65 (many of which were indicated in the IPER as embodying novelty and inventive step); they find support therein and in FIGURE 6. Claims 77-83 have been written to take the place of claims 46-52; they find support therein except for claim 78 which finds support on page 6, lines 22-28 describing the optional operation of the FIG. 1 embodiment.

Guided by the IPER, Applicant has made an honest attempt to simplify the claimed subject matter being presented and to improve the clarity of the claims. Examination on the merits at an early date is respectfully requested for these new claims and for original claims 12-14, 44 and 45.



February 19, 2003

Respectfully submitted,
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